

MINUTES of the REGION 26 COUNCIL

February 23, 2021

Region 26 Council:

Present:

Blaine Co: Roger Guggenmos
Garfield Co: Diana Hurlburt
Greeley Co: Jordan Foltz
Loup Co: Jack Ruppel
Thomas Co: Gary Eng
Sherman Co: Tom Bandur, Vice-Chair
Valley Co: Pat Waldmann-Alternate
Wheeler Co: Doug Pokorny
Law Enforce: Dave Weeks
Tri-Co Municipalities:
Valley, Greeley, Sherman
Jay Meyer, Chairman

Absent:

Range Co. Municipalities:
Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler
Doug Reiter

Staff Present: Alma Beland/Director and Virginia Michalski/Dispatch Supervisor & Office Manager

Visitors Present: Ed Knott/Applied Connective

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Meyer.

Roll Call was taken with ten (10) members present.

The meeting being duly posted and a quorum present, the Chairman proclaimed this meeting to be a legal meeting and acknowledged that the Open Meeting Act was posted in the meeting room.

Motion by Gary Eng and seconded by Jordan Foltz to approve the Agenda.
Ayes (10) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Motion by Diana Hurlburt and seconded by Doug Pokorny to approve the January 2021 Minutes held on February 1st. Ayes (9) Nays (0) Abstain (1).

Motion by Gary Eng and seconded by Dave Weeks to approve the January 2021 Financial Statement.
Ayes (9) Nays (0) Abstain (1).

Tower Report: Alma introduced Ed Knott with Applied Connective that had installed equipment at the Greeley tower site. Ed explained the equipment that he had at the site that was providing internet services to the Greeley community. There had been a miscommunication between his employees and with Alma that they had assumed they had the okay to install and still had no contract with Region 26. His antenna is located at approximately 280'. It was discussed with the board as to what all his services were and what terms we could come to on lease for tower space. At this time, he was still working to build up a client base so options were discussed along with other tower lease agreements he currently has in other counties. Region 26 would check into some of those options and also see what could be worked out with the land owner in his contract.

The tower maintenance contract was reviewed. After board discussion, Tom Bandur made a motion with second from Doug Pokorny to have Chairman Jay Meyer take over the maintenance of the four main towers through the end of the budget year in which he will be reimbursed mileage until a

maintenance person could be hired. Region 26 would advertise for that position after end of budget year. Alma would work with Jay to get all the tower information to him.
Ayes (10) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

COVID-19 Update: Alma reported on the Health Department conference calls and where they are with doing the vaccinations. She explained the Tiers and where they are in the Phases of vaccination. Alma had gathered and turned in spreadsheets of all Firemen and Law Enforcement in the counties to the Health Department in January and they now realized the need for them to each go on line to register their information individually. In the office this last week we were contacting those to get registered. There were not that many doses allocated to the Health Department yet to get as many vaccinated quickly as we had hoped for. Alma had all her information turned in to Deloitte on COVID funding and waiting to hear back from them.

Alma gave an NRIN update on what we had found for fiberoptics to be placed in areas to take away use of some of the towers with lease agreements that were due to renew. The fiber company was wanting to do a 7-year contract for use of the fiber. Alma stated that she did not want a contract that was requiring her signature and was hinging on receiving homeland security grant funds for the next seven years. She was working with NEMA, NRIN and the North Central Board to come together to see how these contracts would be done.

The Farmers and Merchants Bank in Ericson was requesting a resolution for authorization for the Region 26 office to go online to get the interest amount on the existing CD for purpose of bookkeeping since their bank does not send that to us. They did not have the resolution and all information sent to us in time for meeting. We can take care of this at next meeting if Board signature is required.

Alma still had questions for the Employee Handbook and sent all those questions regarding payroll to NIRMA attorney to clarify personnel questions and had not heard back at meeting time and will bring to next meeting if anything needs changed in the handbook.

Criminal Justice Board report: Sheriff Weeks had nothing to report. A quarterly Law Enforcement meeting was held here at Region 26 on February 5th and he was unable to attend that day. Alma stated there were 12 that attended the meeting including three from Game and Parks and one State Trooper. This was the first in person meeting since COVID started.

Communications Center Report: Dispatch Supervisor/Virginia Michalski, handed out a breakdown of the statistics for the previous month. They had 1607 Status Checks, 319 Paging, 274 Alarms, 224 Burn Permits, 213 Wants/Warrants/Registrations, 110 Gun Permits, 112 Minor Detail, 88 Rescue Calls, 85 Messages, 67 Traffic Violations, 46 Assist Citizen, 46 Assist Other Agencies, 43 – 911 Accidental/ Disconnect, 25 Livestock Complaint, 16 Disturbance/Harassment/Assault, 15 Accidents, 14 Fire Calls, 14 Suspicious Events, 11 Animal Calls, 11 Miscellaneous Tasks, 10 Missing Person/Juvenile, 9 Motorist Assist, 9 Paper Service, 9 Unknown Trouble, 8 Siren, 7 Direct Traffic, 7 Reckless Driver, 7 Traffic Hazard, 6 Check Welfare, 5 Gas Drive Off, 5 Weather, 4 Radio Test, 3 Suicidal Threats, 3 Suspicious Person, 3 Theft and 23 various other incidents. Total number of contacts to the Communications Center for the month of January was 3458 including 214 - 911 calls and 1657 Administrative calls into Dispatch.

Alma told the board that she was going to get the monitor needed for weather radar since they had taken over the radar screen with the MACH location system. We are getting closer to storm season and could not have the weather information hidden behind the MACH. Monitors she had been looking at fit into the \$600 range. Platte Valley would have to do the install to get it synched into existing computer tower.

Director's Report:

Alma reported on the Calamus and Davis Creek Orientation that was held going over the Bureau's Emergency Action Plans for both locations.

NEMA has purchased new software to now manage the County's LEOP. It is called BOLD Planning. All were required to set through workshops with BOLD to know how all LEOP's (County's Emergency Plan) would have to be entered into the system. All names and contact information listed in the LEOP had to be entered manually into their system by middle of February. Linda had been working very diligently in the office to get all eight of our County plans entered. There will be more work yet to do on the plans along with workshops and training on how to use the plans, which will now all be online.

The North Central Region of Emergency Managers have meet here to do the grant planning for this year. With our past grant we have the aid of a Consultant to assist us in writing this year's grand justifications. All finished work has to be turned in next week. Then the process starts of having to rate all plans that other regions have turned in across the state.

Alma had received in 100 Red Cross Cots that had been delivered to the Ord Firehall. She and Virginia worked yesterday to get the cots moved out and delivered to different towns in the Region to have on hand for purpose of emergency shelter after a disaster. Some of the cots were brought into the Region building to get labeled and to determine where to take the rest of them.

Alma reported on what they had happen during the bitter cold last week. There was what at first appeared to be a roof leak at the front door location but in checking everything above the drop ceiling it would appear to be condensation of the steel ceiling that supports the concrete roof. It will be watched in the future.

Other Business: The NOAA Weather Meetings this year would all be online due to COVID. Alma had a schedule for both Hastings and North Platte weather for anyone to take that also had the sign in information.

Next regular meeting date will be March 30, 2021.

Chairman Meyer adjourned the meeting at 9:09 p.m.

Alma Beland, Director/Coordinator

ACRONYMS

APCO – Assoc. of Public Communications Officials	LEPC – Local Emergency Planning Committee
CAD – Computer Aided Dispatch	LEDRS – Livestock Emergency Disease Response System
CC – Communications Center	LEOP – Local Emergency Operations Plan
CERT – Community Emergency Response Team	MACH – Mobile Architecture for Communications Handling
CNMRC – Central Nebraska Medical Reserve Corp	NA911 – Nebraska Association of 911 Managers
COADs – Community Organizations Active in Disasters	NACO – Nebraska Association of County Officials
COOP – Continuity of Operations Planning	NAEM – Nebr. Association of Emergency Managers
COVID-19 – Coronavirus Disease 2019	NEMA – Nebraska Emergency Management Agency
C.R.I.M.E.S. – Calls & Records Information Management Software (part of Justice Data Solutions)	NENA – National Emergency Number Association
DEQ – Department of Environmental Quality (State)	NESCA – NE Emergency Services Communicators Association
DHHS – Department of Health & Human Services (State)	*NCR – North Central Region*
DHS – Department of Homeland Security	NCTC – Nebraska Central Telephone Company
DR – Disaster Recovery	NIMS – National Incident Management System
DOR – Department of Roads	NIRMA – NE Intergovernmental Risk Management Association
E911 – Enhanced 911	NRIN – Nebraska Regional Interoperable Network
EAS – Emergency Alert System (FEMA)	NX-Gen – Next Generation 911
ECW – Emergency Call Works (Mfg. of 911 Equipment at Region 26)	PC – Police Chief
EM – Emergency Manager	PD – Police Department
EMD – Emergency Medical Dispatch	*PET – Planning Exercise Training*
EMPG – Emergency Management Performance Grant	POD – Points of Dispensing (Immunization)
EMS – Emergency Medical Services	PPE – Personal Protective Equipment
EMT – Emergency Medical Technician	PMC – Page My Cell
EOC – Emergency Operations Center	PSAP – Public Safety Answering Point (911 Centers)
EPA – Environmental Protection Agency (Federal)	PSC – Public Service Commission
ERG – Emergency Response Guide (Orange Book – Hazardous Materials)	PVC – Platte Valley Communications
FAA – Federal Aviation Administration (Report tower light outages)	RFP – Request for Proposal
FADD – Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostician	SEAT – Single Engine Air Tanker
FCC – Federal Communications Commission (for Radio Frequency Licenses)	SEOC – State Emergency Operation Center
FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency	SHSP – State Homeland Security Program
FMD – Foot and Mouth Disease (Livestock)	SO – Sheriff’s Office
FY – Fiscal Year	SRS – State Radio System
GAN – Grant Adjustment Notice (aka Grant Award)	TEPW – Training Exercise Planning Workshop
GIS – Geographic Information System	THIRA – Threat & Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment
GPS – Global Positioning System	UPS – Universal Power Supply (workstation backup power supply until generator starts)
HAZMAT – Hazardous Materials	VFD – Volunteer Fire Department
HHS – Health and Human Services (Federal)	VOAD – Volunteer Organization Aiding Disasters
HSGP – Homeland Security Grant Program	VOIP – Voice over Internet Protocol
ICS – Incident Command System	V-TAC – Mutual Aid VHF Frequency Channels
IPAWS – Integrated Public Alert Warning System	WEA – Wireless Emergency Alert
J.A.M.I.N. – Jail Administration Management Information Network (Part of Justice Data Solutions)	WCDHD – West Central District Health Department (covers Thomas County)
JDS – Justice Data Solutions (Law Enforcement Records Management & CAD software system)	W.H.O. – World Health Organization
LBF – Lee Bird Field – North Platte (Airport) Weather Service Location	WPC – Weather Prediction Center – Norman, OK
LBPHD – Loup Basin Public Health Department (covers Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler, Greeley, Valley, Sherman)	WIRAT – Wildland Incident Response Assistance Team (State Fire Marshalls)
LE – Law Enforcement	WMD – Weapons of Mass Destruction

*** North Central PET Region Includes:**

Keith, Arthur, Grant, Hooker, McPherson, Logan, Custer, Holt,
Region 24: (Cherry, Keya Paha, Brown, Rock, Boyd) and
Region 26: (Thomas, Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler, Greeley, Valley and Sherman)